

HENRY W. CORBETT, BANKER AND PHILANTHROPIST, ANSWERS THE LAST SUMMONS



HIS COUNTRY HOME AT CORBETT, OR.



THE CORBETT RESIDENCE



THE COTTAGE AT LONG BEACH.

(Continued from First Page.)
sick. Mr. Corbett overcame his infirmities and busied about the house as a man grown 20 or 30 years younger. In order to assure Mrs. Corbett that he was well and vigorous, and in order to take her place in the direction of household affairs.

Mr. Corbett's Descendants.

Mr. Corbett left as his only descendants three grandsons—Harry Ladd Corbett, aged 21 years, Elliot R. Corbett, 18 years, and Hamilton F. Corbett, 12 years. They are sons of the late Henry J. Corbett and Mrs. Helen Ladd Corbett. Henry J. Corbett was a son of H. W. Corbett, and his wife, Mrs. Helen Ladd Corbett, is a daughter of the late W. S. Ladd.

W. E. Robertson, of this city, is a nephew of H. W. Corbett. Mr. Robertson's mother was a sister of Mr. Corbett. Mr. Corbett had another sister, the wife of the late Henry Felling. Three daughters of Mr. Corbett survive: Miss Henrietta E. Felling, Mary F. Felling, and Mrs. H. C. Cabell, all of whom are now in New York.

W. H. Corbett, president of the Williamette Iron Works, of this city, is a son of a second cousin of H. W. Corbett. Mrs. Philip C. Schuyler, of this city, is a cousin of H. W. Corbett.

MR. CORBETT'S CAREER.

Record of Industry, Integrity and Ability.

Henry Winslow Corbett was born at Westborough, Mass., February 18, 1827, and was the youngest son of a family of eight, six of whom reached maturity. His parents were Elijah and Melinda (Forbush) Corbett. His ancestors, who settled in Massachusetts in the 17th century, were Normans, and traced their descent from Roger Corbett, who was a military leader under William I, and in the conquest of England gained distinction and lands for the part he bore in the trouble.

William, the eldest son of Roger, was settled at Waltham, while his second son, Sir Robert Corbett, had for his inheritance the castle and estate of Chus with a large part of his father's domain. The latter's son, also named Robert, accompanied Richard I to the siege of Acre, bearing on his coat-of-arms the ravens, which have since been the crest of his descendants. As will be seen from the foregoing, Mr. Corbett was descended from a very ancient and honorable family. Many achieved distinction in the church and in the learned professions, while one of the descendants on the maternal side was a member of Parliament a few years ago.

The Corbette in America are liberal descendants of the ancient and honorable family, as their family record at Mendon, Mass., clearly indicates.

Mr. Corbett's father was a mechanic and established at Westborough the first edge-tool manufactory in that part of Massachusetts. He subsequently removed to Washington County, New York, where he continued his manufacturing business until forced to abandon it on account of failing health. He then settled in Cambridge in the same county and engaged in the hotel business and farming until his death in 1856. He was a man of progressive ideas and possessed much mechanical ingenuity. Both of Henry W. Corbett's parents were consistent Christians, and exerted a most wholesome influence upon the lives and characters of their children.

Mr. Corbett's boyhood was passed in Washington County, New York, where, until he reached the age of 12 years, he received an ordinary common school education. At that age he began his business career in a store at Cambridge, remaining two years as clerk and a part of the same time attending Cambridge Academy. He then went home, and, after a short term at school, secured a clerkship at Salem, the county seat. After a year there he went to New York City and secured a clerkship in the dry goods store of Williams, Bradford & Co., serving there seven years. During this period he firmly established himself in the confidence of his employers, so that in October, 1850, they furnished him the necessary capital to ship a general line of merchandise to Portland, Or., by way of Cape Horn on the bark Francis and Louise. He arrived in Portland March 4, 1851, at the age of 24. At that time Portland contained about 50 inhabitants and five small stores. Front street was a stump field, and back of First street stood the virgin forest. He rented a frame building, not quite completed, on the corner of Fourth and Oak streets, at the rate of \$25 per month. Storing his goods in the second floor of this building before it was completed, he began business. His customers were obliged to ascend a flight of stairs. "At night," said Mr. Corbett, "I went to a writer, I slept in the store, and when I was ready to go to bed I pulled the stairs up after me."

With a zeal and earnestness which ever characterized him, he applied himself to business, and within 14 months disposed of the entire stock of goods, the net

profits from the venture amounting to the handsome sum of \$20,000, with which he returned to New York. Before returning East, however, he became associated with Robert and Finley McLaren, who arranged to continue the business in Portland. Mr. Corbett remained in New York one year, and during this time continued to ship goods to his partner in Portland. He then determined to make Portland his home, and some months after his return devoted himself to the business, and established a business in his own name. He did a general merchandise business until 1859, when he changed to a wholesale hardware business. He became associated with Henry Felling in 1870, establishing the firm of Corbett, Felling & Co., which has since occupied so prominent a place among the mercantile houses in the Northwest.

As soon as Mr. Corbett had gained a good financial start he began to take a prominent part in those enterprises which he saw were needed to develop the resources of the country. He first became interested in steamboating and the improvement of transportation facilities on the rivers. He was among the first to advocate the building of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and when in the Senate labored zealously for the project, though he had no personal interest to subvert in so doing. After the failure of Jay Cooke to carry the undertaking through, he helped in the reorganization of the company by taking a pecuniary interest in the enterprise and was one of its most active promoters thereafter until its completion. In the winter of 1882-83 Mr. Corbett secured the Government contract to carry the mails between San Francisco and Oregon. The line was some 40 miles in length, and he stocked it with horse stages and successfully continued the business until his election to the United States Senate. Then, believing his relation to the business incompatible with his duties as a public servant, he relinquished his contract.

In 1880, with Henry Felling, Mr. Corbett purchased a controlling interest in the First National Bank of Portland, which had been established in 1853. At that time the bank's business was very limited, its deposits amounting to about \$40,000. Under the management of Messrs. Corbett and Felling the bank steadily grew until at the present time it is at the head of financial institutions of the Northwest. Henry Felling was president from the time they took control until his death four years ago, and Mr. Corbett was vice-president after his retirement from the Senate. Since Mr. Felling's death Mr. Corbett has been president. Since his organization he has also been president of the Security Savings & Trust Company.

In numerous other business, public, church and charitable enterprises Mr. Corbett has been prominent. He was a director of the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company, always casting his influence in behalf of liberal management and to secure the lowest rates of transportation possible with good and quick service.

He was largely instrumental in the original Board of Trade, and for several years was its president and was a member of the Chamber of Commerce. In all the important measures of those bodies Mr. Corbett was foremost in counsel and hearty in action. As chairman of the first state central committee, he did valiant service in securing the ascendancy of this party in Oregon, and at the convention held in 1880 he and Leander Holmes were elected delegates to the Chicago convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency. They were unable to reach the convention in time, therefore Horace Greeley represented Oregon by proxies from Mr. Corbett and Mr. Holmes. The two votes Mr. Greeley thus enabled to cast for Lincoln, backed by his own powerful influence, had a most potent effect. If it did not really determine the result in favor of the then comparatively little known statesman who was destined to rank on an equality with Washington.

Mr. Corbett's duty foretold that war between the North and the South was inevitable, and with the first intimation of the approaching struggle he became an ardent Union man. As soon as the South decided to secede he realized the danger of delay, and just after Mr. Lincoln's inauguration he boldly said to Horace Greeley in New York City: "It is my conviction that the war should be prosecuted with the utmost vigor to coerce the states that have placed themselves in open hostility to the Government. It will be remembered that at this time Horace Greeley's idea was 'to let our erring sister depart in peace.'"

Upon Mr. Corbett's return to Oregon he made every effort to induce all loyal men to combine against the heresy of secession, and as chairman of the Republican State Central Committee strongly urged the union of the Republicans and Douglas Democrats. In a great measure this was successful, and at a union convention held in Eugene City, April 9,

1862, he was strongly solicited to become the candidate for Governor, but, having no personal ambition in that direction, he declined the honor. A. C. Gibbs was selected. So well did he manage the campaign that followed that Mr. Gibbs was elected by a majority of 5000 votes, whereas the usual Democratic majority had been 2500.

During the entire war period Mr. Corbett continued taking a most active and influential part in maintaining the ascendancy of his party, believing that the maintenance of its principles and purposes was essential to preservation of the Union. He has never sought or had any desire for official position, but in 1886 some of the Republican members of the Legislature who recognized his unselfish labors in behalf of the organization of the party urged him to accept their support for United States Senator. He consented, but under the provision that his name would not be brought forward unless they were unable to agree upon any of the candidates who had already entered the field. He would not be a party to creation of discord. After several unsuccessful ballots, when it seemed impossible to secure a harmonious action on any candidate, a majority of the Republican members signed an agreement to support Mr. Corbett and asked permission to present his name. Thereupon he went to Salem, but, learning that some of the candidates were dissatisfied, he notified his friends he would not enter the race unless perfect harmony could be secured. However, on his return to Portland he was notified of his election as successor to Hon. J. W. Nesmith.

With his wonted earnestness he entered upon the duties of his office in March, 1887. At that period the many financial heresies following the conclusion of the war, together with the vexatious questions which arose from restoring the South to the Union, confronted the Nation. On the floor of the Senate Mr. Corbett had to contend with some of the most experienced Legislators, some of whom are still conspicuous in National affairs. He was unfamiliar with Senatorial laws and usages of deliberative bodies in general, but with practical common sense and fidelity he applied himself to his Senatorial labors, and by his votes and speeches made a record which in the light of subsequent events fully demonstrated the wisdom of his course. His sound practical knowledge of financial affairs permitted him to understand clearly and expose financial heresies, and to this important branch of National legislation he addressed himself with all the force and power of which he was capable. His arguments on the resumption of specie payment, funding of the National debt at a lower rate of interest for a longer time, and his determined opposition to all plans that savored in the least of bad faith or repudiation have proven his judgment correct in every particular, not only according to the logic of morals, but on the ground of expediency as well.

Mr. Corbett's maiden speech on National finances was delivered December 13, 1887, in support of his bill to substitute gold notes for legal tender notes and to facilitate the resumption of specie payments. He strongly condemned the continuance of a system of irredeemable paper money, and argued that the productive industry and commerce of the country were crippled by the artificial, delusive and feeble valuation which such a system occasioned. He declared that well-regulated business basis could not be reached until a return was made as soon and as prudently as possible to a specie basis. He proposed to reach this result by gradual substitution of gold notes for the then existing legal tenders.

Mr. Corbett delivered an able speech on the funding bill February 11, 1888, saying he would offer an amendment to the bill making the bonds in question redeemable in coin after 30 years instead of ten, and turned his attention to the statement of Senator Sherman, of Ohio, who said that for one would vote to pay off the 2-year bonds in legal tender, "providing the holders do not see to exchange their securities for bonds bearing 1 per cent less interest than those now held by them."

In his many speeches in behalf of sustaining the National credit, Mr. Corbett displayed unusual powers of statement and of close logical argument, and history has already proved the soundness and wisdom of the views he contains. Most of the great financial ideas he advocated have been adopted.

While Mr. Corbett devoted much time to National questions, he was by no means unmindful of the needs of the state he represented. When he took his seat on the ocean mail service between Portland and San Francisco had been discontinued, but through his efforts was speedily restored. Among other local measures which received his attention were the removal of obstructions to navigation in the Willamette River, the erection of light-houses along the coast and the location of fog whistles and buoys to mark the channels of the navigable streams; an additional customs district with port of entry and bonded warehouse was established; large addition was made to the appropriation to survey the public lands in Oregon; the headquarters of the military department of the Columbia were removed from Washington Territory to Oregon, and a check station was secured at the Postoffice building at Portland. The opening up of new lines of communication and securing greater facilities in the use of old ones received all the advantages which his influence and commercial experience commanded.

Mr. Corbett was tendered an ovation near the close of his Senatorial term by his fellow citizens in Portland, and in the address of welcome his political career was reviewed as follows by the speaker of the day:

"A. H. Devers—Mr. Corbett was foremost of our progressive citizens. The Lewis and Clark Fair lost its ablest and most energetic promoter. Portland loses a man it can ill afford to lose."

"L. N. Fleischer—He was Portland's greatest old man. He was so much a part of the activity of the city and state that we can hardly recognize that he is gone. He left a void in the public life of the city and state which will not be filled."

"Paul Westinger—He was a man of large heart as well as of large affairs. He always accomplished what he undertook to do, and his death is a loss to the city and to his family, but to his city and his state."

"Dan McAllen—We all have the same road in the end, but when we are great men go we are shocked. Mr. Corbett was proud of Portland, proud of Oregon and proud of the coming Lewis and Clark Exposition. He worked for the public interest incessantly."

"Samuel Connell—Although I was not very intimately acquainted with Mr. Corbett, I always regarded him as my friend, and I feel the loss very much. I looked upon him as having the greatest public spirit of any man in the city. The work

yourself to judge correctly of the sentiment prevailing throughout the state, we congratulate you upon having so prudently and effectively served the public that there are few, if any, whether members of the party that elected you or of the opposition, who express dissatisfaction with your course. The Republicans say you have been true to the principles of the party and faithful to the pledges implied in receiving the office at their hands. The Democrats admit that you have been no ungenerous opponent, while both agree that your conduct on all occasions has been governed by considerations affecting the welfare of our common country and not by those of party expediency or personal advantage. Such endorsement and approbation by an intelligent people is high praise in these times of corruption in high places. Yes, in these times when it is most effective that wealth and social position and commercial enterprise and local power and official patronage will join in any unholy alliance and adopt any means, however corrupt, that may appear necessary to bribe the weak and bribe the strong into lending their aid and countenance to the schemes of ambitious and selfish men for personal aggrandizement and private plunder."

It was during Mr. Corbett's public life that Alaska was purchased. William H. Seward and Schuyler Colfax were sent to Oregon to secure the support of the Oregon Legislature. Old residents of Portland will remember the reception tendered these gentlemen at the old Philharmonic Hall in this city. Mr. Corbett was chairman of the reception committee and introduced Secretary Seward and Mr. Colfax.

Mr. Corbett's term as Senator expired March 4, 1891, and for more than a quarter of a century subsequently his attention was devoted entirely to business. He declined absolutely to have anything to do with politics, though often besought to enter again therein. In 1888, when the Oregon Legislature adjourned without electing a Senator he was invited to be a candidate for the office by a majority of the Republican members, but he declined, insisting that his many and diverse business interests demanded and absorbed his entire attention.

He remained out of politics until 1896, when he consented that the time had come once more to take an active interest in public affairs, that it was in the line of his duty to help maintain Oregon in the sound-money column.

He was a candidate for United States Senator before the Legislature of 1888, but when he saw that there was an effort on the part of some of the members to oppose his election, he retired from the race in the interest of harmony, and Senator Simon was given the office.

It should be also related that in 1887, the Legislature having failed to organize, Governor Leach appointed Mr. Corbett to the United States Senate, but that body refused to seat him on the ground that he was a candidate for Senator.

for the 1896 Exposition, of which he has been the moving force, must go on, and I mourn that he was not spared to work with us.

H. W. Scott—Our loss is great. It will be felt by all classes of our business and other interests in this city and state.

W. D. Wheelwright—I have never met a man who showed such courage and energy in spite of physical weakness and increasing years. With him to intend was to do, and to plan was to carry out. He was a benevolent man, given to good deeds, and had the fullest sense of the responsibilities of wealth. It is no disparagement to anyone to say that he was a man of great spirit and courage.

W. D. Fenton—Mr. Corbett was a great figure in the business life of the Northwest. His death brings to every citizen a feeling of personal bereavement, for his life was very closely identified with the social, political and financial life of the state. A man of great vigor of intellect, strong personality, iron will and determined purpose, he leaves a vacancy in great affairs that will not soon be filled.

Dr. E. P. Hill—Mr. Corbett was a liberal man, a remarkably liberal man, and he was a man of great spirit and courage. Up to the very last he took interest in the work of the church. Only last week he was re-elected president of the board of trustees of the First Presbyterian Church, and he was asked to name what work of charity he has not aided. I could name none. I never took a charitable or church enterprise to him but he responded he would do his share.

F. M. Warren—He was the greatest man in Portland, the most enterprising, energetic, progressive, and the best. I really don't know of anybody who can take his place.

Mr. Corbett had had an opportunity to organize, but had failed to do so, and that, therefore, Governor Lord had no appointing power. Thereupon Mr. Corbett was again a candidate in 1901, but failed of election, though he was supported throughout the session by a majority of the Republican members of the Legislature.

MR. CORBETT'S FAMILY.

Twice Married—Leaves No Surviving Children.

Mr. Corbett was married first in February, 1853, to Miss Caroline E. Jagger, of Albany, N. Y. This lady died some years later, leaving two sons, the younger of whom, Hamilton F. Corbett, was carried off by sudden illness in 1884. The eldest son, Henry J. Corbett, died in 1894.

Mr. Corbett was married a second time in 1861 to Miss Emma L. Ruggles, of Worcester, Mass., a lady of rare worth of character and strong mental inclinations, whose grace and social accomplishments and whose prominent part in charitable work were thought that she was capable of a wide circle of friends who universally esteem her most highly.

The immediate connections surviving Mr. Corbett are: Mrs. Corbett, Mrs. Helen Ladd Corbett (widow of Henry J. Corbett) and his three grandsons (all the children of Henry J. and Helen Ladd Corbett), who are, respectively, Harry Ladd Corbett, aged 21, now at Harvard College, class of 1902; Elliott Ruggles Corbett, aged 18, and Hamilton Forbush Corbett, aged 12. The latter two youths are now attending the Portland Academy, to which institution Mr. Corbett was so generous a benefactor. These three boys are the ultimate heirs of Mr. Corbett's great fortune, which is conservatively estimated at over \$5,000,000.

VAST EXTENT OF HIS ACTIVITIES.

Mr. Corbett Associated With Many Business Enterprises.

Mr. Corbett's interests with many years past were manifold. He was president of the First National Bank, President of the Security Savings & Trust Company, President of the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company, president of the Portland Hotel Company, of which splendid enterprise he was one of the chief founders. He was president of the Riverview Cemetery Company, was chairman of the active promoter of the great committee in charge of the work which has given Portland the finest water works system of any city of its size in the Union. He was a director of the City & Suburban Railway Company, a director of the Columbia River & Northern Railway Company, a director of the Portland Gas Company, president of the board of trustees of the Lewis and Clark Fair, an officer of the Trinidad Asphalt Company and a director or otherwise interested in several smaller banking and other institutions scattered throughout the Northwest.

As further showing the variety and scope of Mr. Corbett's interests, the following is a list of some of Mr. Corbett's important property holdings in this city: The Worcester block, Cambridge building, Hamilton block, at the corner of Fifth and Morrison; the splendid block occupied by his own house, just south of the Postoffice, the property covered with wooden structures at Fifth and Alder, and a great number of dwellings and vacant lots scattered throughout the city.

MR. CORBETT AND THE '05 FAIR.

Chief Promoter and Directing Spirit of the Great Exposition.

The Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition was the last great creation of Mr. Corbett, and was in many respects his favorite enterprise. His heart and soul were in it, and he gave to the management of its affairs more time and attention than to his own private business. It was his purpose to make the success of the Exposition the rounding-out of his long business career, and he would have succeeded if his life had been spared.

Mr. Corbett is justly entitled to the honor of being the father of the Exposition. Without his help and influence the local company could never have been financed, nor would the state have been so generous in its treatment of the undertaking. When the Exposition of 1893 was first formally proposed by the Oregon Historical Society in December, 1890, all turned to Mr. Corbett as the one person who was qualified to take the leadership and organize the company on a sound basis. The first suggestion of cost was made to him, and entirely within bounds, but the figures in the hands of enthusiasts, mounted rapidly, and there was considerable talk that Portland could outdo Buffalo, and that it could, with some assistance from the surrounding country, organize and give vital force to

the Oregon Legislature had had an opportunity to organize, but had failed to do so, and that, therefore, Governor Lord had no appointing power. Thereupon Mr. Corbett was again a candidate in 1901, but failed of election, though he was supported throughout the session by a majority of the Republican members of the Legislature.

MR. CORBETT'S FAMILY.

Twice Married—Leaves No Surviving Children.

Mr. Corbett was married first in February, 1853, to Miss Caroline E. Jagger, of Albany, N. Y. This lady died some years later, leaving two sons, the younger of whom, Hamilton F. Corbett, was carried off by sudden illness in 1884. The eldest son, Henry J. Corbett, died in 1894.

Mr. Corbett was married a second time in 1861 to Miss Emma L. Ruggles, of Worcester, Mass., a lady of rare worth of character and strong mental inclinations, whose grace and social accomplishments and whose prominent part in charitable work were thought that she was capable of a wide circle of friends who universally esteem her most highly.

The immediate connections surviving Mr. Corbett are: Mrs. Corbett, Mrs. Helen Ladd Corbett (widow of Henry J. Corbett) and his three grandsons (all the children of Henry J. and Helen Ladd Corbett), who are, respectively, Harry Ladd Corbett, aged 21, now at Harvard College, class of 1902; Elliott Ruggles Corbett, aged 18, and Hamilton Forbush Corbett, aged 12. The latter two youths are now attending the Portland Academy, to which institution Mr. Corbett was so generous a benefactor. These three boys are the ultimate heirs of Mr. Corbett's great fortune, which is conservatively estimated at over \$5,000,000.

VAST EXTENT OF HIS ACTIVITIES.

Mr. Corbett Associated With Many Business Enterprises.

Mr. Corbett's interests with many years past were manifold. He was president of the First National Bank, President of the Security Savings & Trust Company, President of the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company, president of the Portland Hotel Company, of which splendid enterprise he was one of the chief founders. He was president of the Riverview Cemetery Company, was chairman of the active promoter of the great committee in charge of the work which has given Portland the finest water works system of any city of its size in the Union. He was a director of the City & Suburban Railway Company, a director of the Columbia River & Northern Railway Company, a director of the Portland Gas Company, president of the board of trustees of the Lewis and Clark Fair, an officer of the Trinidad Asphalt Company and a director or otherwise interested in several smaller banking and other institutions scattered throughout the Northwest.

As further showing the variety and scope of Mr. Corbett's interests, the following is a list of some of Mr. Corbett's important property holdings in this city: The Worcester block, Cambridge building, Hamilton block, at the corner of Fifth and Morrison; the splendid block occupied by his own house, just south of the Postoffice, the property covered with wooden structures at Fifth and Alder, and a great number of dwellings and vacant lots scattered throughout the city.

MR. CORBETT AND THE '05 FAIR.

Chief Promoter and Directing Spirit of the Great Exposition.

The Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition was the last great creation of Mr. Corbett, and was in many respects his favorite enterprise. His heart and soul were in it, and he gave to the management of its affairs more time and attention than to his own private business. It was his purpose to make the success of the Exposition the rounding-out of his long business career, and he would have succeeded if his life had been spared.

Mr. Corbett is justly entitled to the honor of being the father of the Exposition. Without his help and influence the local company could never have been financed, nor would the state have been so generous in its treatment of the undertaking. When the Exposition of 1893 was first formally proposed by the Oregon Historical Society in December, 1890, all turned to Mr. Corbett as the one person who was qualified to take the leadership and organize the company on a sound basis. The first suggestion of cost was made to him, and entirely within bounds, but the figures in the hands of enthusiasts, mounted rapidly, and there was considerable talk that Portland could outdo Buffalo, and that it could, with some assistance from the surrounding country, organize and give vital force to

corporation of several millions of dollars capital. Upon all such wild speculation Mr. Corbett, representing the unanimous sentiment of conservative Portland, placed the stamp of disapproval. He pointed out the danger of inflation, and made it clear that any serious overhauling of the city's strength would react upon it. Mr. Corbett was won over to the proposed Exposition when he was convinced that the people would keep within their means in financing the company, or, as he expressed it, "cut their cloth according to the measure."

From the moment that Mr. Corbett gave his approval to the Exposition he seemed to think that he had entered upon a great public duty and was found to discharge his task to the smallest detail. Immediately after the filing of the articles of incorporation in October, 1891, he set about devising means to place the capital stock. This necessitated the formation of a provisional executive committee, which met at night in 248 Washington street. In all the work that was done in November and December, 1891, Mr. Corbett participated with as much vim as any of his younger associates. No night was too cold for him to attend the meetings, and more than once he came to the sessions of the executive committee after having previously taken out in the cheerless meeting hall. No step was taken without his advice and concurrence; no committee was appointed whose personnel he did not carefully consider; no detail of organization, however unimportant, escaped his attention. The volume of work of which he was capable and the energy which he put into its execution were among the many gleaming features of those organization meetings.

Mr. Corbett gave the Exposition company its being by writing his name for \$25,000 of the stock, or one-tenth of the total capitalization at that time. He gave the company his money and his support, not for the good of his interests, but to derive from the Exposition, but for the good of the whole Northwest. Whether he should ever get back any part of his subscription was a question which he never entered his head. The upbuilding of the country was his main and only consideration. He looked not at 1895 alone, but beyond the Exposition to the passing of the day when the staff-covered buildings should have been leveled to the ground. He had hoped that out of the large amount of money that would be expended some buildings might be left that would be an enduring monument to the spirit and enterprise of this generation. With this object in view, and believing in the greatest good for the greatest number, he maintained that the advantages of the City Park as a site for the Fair outweighed its disadvantages, and yielded only when he found that the sentiment of the executive committee was almost unanimously against his view. The permanent building under the act passed by the last Legislature, the Lewis and Clark monument to Lewis and Clark in the City Park, the cornerstone of which President Roosevelt will lay May 21.

In the management of the business of the Exposition Mr. Corbett's methods were the same as those which characterized his conduct of his private affairs. His rules were efficiency and economy. Spend no money unnecessarily," he would say. "Remember, the stockholders have put up this money." Every letter he received was promptly and courteously answered. The man who applied to him personally for the bank for the position of gatekeeper or timekeeper at the Exposition—places that had not yet been created—was treated as kindly as if he had come to open an account at the bank. Interest at 4 per cent was allowed on the company's funds at the First National Bank, by Mr. Corbett's direction. "We do not pay interest on deposits," he said, "but this position is given the corporation want to provide a fund that will help stand off the expenses."

As an Exposition president and executive officer Mr. Corbett takes rank with Lyman J. Gage, now Secretary of the Treasury, who was the first president of the Chicago World's Fair, for financial ability, and above Mr. Gage for staying power. Mr. Corbett's plan for the Chicago Exposition at its start, just as Mr. Corbett headed our Exposition at its start. Mr. Gage served a year and then surrendered his office because his private affairs demanded his time, leaving a carefully prepared plan for his successors to follow. Mr. Corbett prepared his own plans, worked them out with fact and judgment, and gave them to the stockholders as private affairs, and surrendered only to death. If Mr. Corbett had been in charge at Chicago, his constructive ability and close scrutiny of the outlay would have returned perhaps 50 per cent to the stockholders instead of only 10 per cent. The waste that grew out of ill-considered plans and other causes at Chicago would not have been possible under a Corbett. As Mr. Corbett is compared to his contemporaries in exposition management, the fact will redound to his glory and the credit of Oregon, that while Portland will have the smallest of the international Exposi-